

August 28, 2001

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 28, 2001, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Messerlian, Nowatka, Scotto, Walker, Witkowsky and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers and other staff representatives.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on the agenda matter listed under 16.a) Conference with Labor Negotiator and 16.b) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6 and 54956.8.

No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

The Council reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Hardison.

The invocation was given by Father Douglas Judson, St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

City Manager Jackson announced a request to withdraw the Fairfield Residential Development / Ed McCoy EAS00-00017, DVP00-00007, CUP00-00044, DIV00-00022, MOD00-00016.

He also reported that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Congestion Management Program Local Implementation Report (LIR) would be deferred to be heard September 11, 2001.

Mayor Hardison thanked Transit Director Whittle for his response to inquiries and noted that that information was available at the back of the auditorium.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Scotto announced a meeting of the Veteran's Memorial Committee on Wednesday, September 19, 2001 at 5:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Assembly Room at City Hall and invited everyone to share information on veterans who had died in service to ensure their names would be on the monument.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6a. PROCLAMATION RE OKTOBERFEST FUNDRAISER

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation to Hans and Teri Rotter, owners of Alpine Village for their dedication to charities serving the Torrance communities, and the following organizations supporting the 16th annual OktoberFest Fundraiser at Alpine Village on Saturday, September 8, 2001: The Daily Breeze; Help the Homeless Help Themselves; Carl E. Wynn Foundation; Hawthorne Healthy Start Collaborative Mon Gard; Westside Concrete; Sertomas of Torrance; Knights of Columbus – Manhattan Beach; Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet; St. James Catholic Church; Novartis; Cal Fed Bank; Little Company of Mary; PacBell; St. James Parish; Somerville Plywood; Newmans Vacation/ Air New Zealand; Tim Meyers Scholarship Fund; Lufthansa; St. Lawrence Martyr Golf Club; Mellon First Business Bank; Clark Construction; Granstrom Masonry; Westwood Building Supply; and St. John Fisher.

Ms. Rotter thanked all the honorees for making the fundraiser possible.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 24, 2001

7b. AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT (C2001-028) RE CONSERV ENVIRONMENTAL OF TORRANCE

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve an amendment to the contract (C2001-028) of \$3,475 for Conserv Environmental of Torrance for additional costs incurred in the demolition of property located at 2314 Del Amo Boulevard for a total contract price of \$31,325.

7c. MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR JULY 2001

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of July 2001.

7d. AMENDMENT TO A & P CONSTRUCTION INC. CONTRACT (C2001-129)

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Acting General Services Director that City Council approve an amendment to A & P Construction Inc. contract (C2001-129) in the amount of \$3,759.73 for additional costs incurred in the renovation of the Housing Division for a total contract amount of \$32,129.73.

7e. PURCHASE ORDER RE SHEPHERD MACHINERY CO., OF WHITTIER, CA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Acting General Services Director that City Council authorize the award of a purchase order to Shepherd Machinery Co., of Whittier, California, in the amount of \$27,320.76 for the purchase of a Caterpillar Model CB-2140 Asphalt Compactor.

7f. AMENDMENT TO TRI SPAN INC. CONTRACT (C2000-089)

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Librarian and Acting General Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve an amendment to the Tri Span Inc. contract (C2000-089) in the amount of \$22,461.81 for recommended changes for renovation of the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library; and
- 2) Authorize an increase to contract contingency funds for construction contract changes to an amount of \$94,394.

7g. CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 RE PUBLIC WORKS AGREEMENT C2001-110 WITH RANCO CORPORATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$99,267.92 to Public Works Agreement C2001-110 with Ranco Corporation to include additional streets in the Residential Curb, Gutter and Sidewalk Replacement Program, I-1/I-5 - Phase 2 (North Torrance);
- 2) Authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$4,963.08; and
- 3) Appropriate \$104,231 of General Funds previously allocated to the Residential Streets Rehabilitation Program (I-5) to the General Fund Account (Project #4012003) established for Phase 2 (North Torrance) portion.

7h. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR WEED ABATEMENT ON PROPERTY LOCATED BETWEEN VISTA LARGO AND VIA CORONA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Building and Safety Director and the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council transfer funds in the amount of \$9,200 from the Program Contingencies Reserve Fund and allocate the funds for weed abatement on City property on the hillside slope located between Vista Largo and Via Corona.

7i. TRITECH SUPPORT SERVICES RENEWAL AGREEMENT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director and the Fire Chief that City Council authorize the Trittech Support Services Renewal Agreement for the Fire Computer Aided Dispatch System with Trittech Software Systems in the amount of \$32,326.25.

7j. COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAM CONTRACT RENEWAL

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council accept and endorse the County of Los Angeles Delinquency Prevention Program contract, in the amount of \$29,069.66, so that the needed assistance to our children can continue.

7k. FY 2002-2005 SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN (SRTP)

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve the FY 2002-2005 Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) for submittal to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

7l. FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) URBANIZED AREA FORMULA PROGRAM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council approve and authorize the City Manager to apply for and the Transit Department to submit an on-line application for an amount not to exceed \$6,058,000 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Urbanized Area Formula Program Section 5307 Capital funds to assist in the purchase of replacement buses, support equipment, an automated vehicle locator system, security cameras, fareboxes and computer software.

7m. PURCHASE ORDER RE CREATIVE BUS SALES, INCORPORATED

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Transit Director that City Council authorize a purchase order be issued to Creative Bus Sales, Incorporated in the amount of \$3,219,991.60 (\$229,999.40 per bus, including shipping and California sales tax) to purchase (14) fourteen 32-ft buses for the Municipal Area Express (MAX) Program (FEAP #168).

7n. LICENSE AGREEMENT RE ARCO PRODUCTS COMPANY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a License Agreement with ARCO Products Company for one (1) groundwater monitoring well.

7o. CONJUNCTIVE WATER USE AGREEMENTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve Conjunctive Use Agreement between the Central Basin Municipal Water District, the City of Compton, the City of Long Beach, the West Basin Municipal Water District, and the City of Torrance; and
- 2) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to the Agreement on behalf of the City.

7p. BUDGET TRANSFERS FROM FEAP #37 and FEAP #40

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Acting General Services Director that City Council authorize a budget transfer of \$13,000 from completed FEAP Project #37 - City Hall Economizer replacement and Facilities, Equipment, and Automation Plan (FEAP) #40 – Miscellaneous Exhaust Fan Replacement to fund the replacement at the Walteria Recreation Building roof.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the approval of Consent Calendar items 7a through 7p as written. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

11a. CONTINUED STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR CAROLWOOD DRIVE AND SINGINGWOOD DRIVE

Recommendation of the City Manager and City Attorney that City Council continue the state of local emergency proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Drive and Singingwood Drive.

Building and Safety Director Isomoto reported that based on studies, 24 notices had been mailed to owners to advise them that some action may be necessary before the rainy season.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Cribbs seconded the motion and hearing no opposition, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

12. HEARINGS

12a. FAIRFIELD RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The applicant has withdrawn their request for approval of a 296-unit apartment complex, including three parking structures. The Planning Department recommends that City Council accept and file the request for withdrawal of the application. EAS00-00017, DVP00-00007, CUP00-00044, DIV00-00022, MOD00-00016: FAIRFIELD RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT / ED MCCOY

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to accept and file the request for withdrawal of the application. Councilmember Cribbs seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

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The Torrance Redevelopment Agency met from 7:29 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

15a. Responding to Mayor Hardison, Police Chief Herren acknowledged receipt of an award from Attorney General Lockyer for a program on fraud education of seniors and the prosecution of perpetrators.

15b. Councilmember Messerlian noted receipt of information from the Parks & Recreation Department regarding a recent Kid Friendly survey noting that Torrance had scored a B. He suggested that the City look into how they could work more cooperatively to enhance city life and he commented on the excellent Concert in the Park by the Torrance Symphony this past Sunday.

15c. Councilmember Scotto noted he was disappointed in the crowd at the Concert in the Park performance and commented on the excellent program. He also asked that an item to be brought back to Council with penalties as a deterrent for signs in parkways as they are unsightly and have been increasing.

15d. Councilmember Walker noted he had attended the AFSCME employee picnic on Saturday as had Councilmember Cribbs and Mayor Hardison and reported that all had a good time

15e. Councilmember Witkowsky invited the public to purchase tickets to the City of Torrance Employee Variety Show to benefit the American Cancer Society on Friday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m.

15f. Mayor Hardison echoed the comments of Councilmember Scotto on signs, especially those at the Sepulveda/Hawthorne intersection attached to stop signs and asked that an update be provided to the City Council.

Mayor Hardison noting that the Fairfield residential development would not have been an easy matter for the City Council to deal with, commended and thanked five Councilmembers for taking seriously the responsibility to hear both sides of the issue before making up their minds and for not taking sides prior to a hearing. Noting fairness issues for the rest of the City Council, the Mayor took issue with Councilmember

Walker's statement in a recent letter that he "successfully led the vote to deny the property owner the opportunity to change the council agenda" stating there were not five votes to consider the matter of postponement.

Councilmember Walker, referencing his letter, stood by its accuracy and stated that he felt he had acted responsibly as he had met with property owners, developers, and the neighbors; had made an accurate representation in the letter sent out after City Council action; and felt that talking with people in the neighborhood was important.

15g. Joni Gang, Friends of Torrance Animals, announced the Super Adoption Festival pet adoption to be held at Torrance Toyota on Pacific Coast Highway on September 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

15h. Joan George spoke against Harry Potter books and announced a showing of a church sponsored film about the issue at Torrance Crossroads Church on September 6.

15i. Joan Pacina, Torrance, chair of the Southwood Project Committee, noting concerns of density and the impact of the density, asked for an amendment to the Hawthorne Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan for Del Amo sub-districts 1 and 2 as mixed use and multi-family is not appropriate in these locations and that the matter be brought forward within 60 days

15j. Sandi Monda, Torrance, member of the Southwood Project Committee, asserted that the process of government works. She commented on density and traffic concerns related to development and asked for traffic calming measures on Ocean Avenue.

15k. Alan Lee, AFSCME Local 117, thanked Mrs. Cribbs, Mr. Walker and Mayor Hardison for attending the AFSCME picnic. He also complimented the City Council for their style and civility even when they disagree amongst themselves

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:59 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, September 11, 2001 at 5:30 p.m., for an executive session in the Council Chamber, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Tuesday, September 4 is a City Council dark night.

Attest:

Mayor of the City of Torrance

Sue Herbers
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on September 25, 2001